

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A system for video content-based selection of  
2 programming for recording comprising:

3               a connection for receiving broadcast programming;

4           and

5               an image processor comparing a demodulated field  
6 from the received broadcast programming to a template  
7 defining characteristics of video content desired to be  
8 recorded and saving the field in response to determining at  
9 least a threshold level of similarity between the field and  
10 the template.

1           2. The system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the  
2 template defines color characteristics and spatial  
3 distribution of regions to be compared to the demodulated  
4 field for determining a level of similarity.

1           3. The system as set forth in Claim 2 wherein the  
2 template includes white regions of expected variability  
3 which are ignored in comparing the template to the  
4 demodulated field.

1           4. The system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the  
2 image processor continuously compares demodulated fields  
3 for a selected channel to the template.

1           5. The system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the  
2 image processor compares demodulated fields for a selected  
3 channel to the template during a predefined period.

1           6. The system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the  
2 image processor compares successive demodulated fields to  
3 the template and saves all demodulated fields having at  
4 least the threshold level of similarity with the template  
5 together with associated audio.

1           7. The system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the  
2 image processor compares demodulated fields for a plurality  
3 of channels each to a designated template from one or more  
4 templates.

1           8.   A video receiver comprising:  
2               a connection for receiving broadcast programming;  
3               a tuner demodulating fields from the received  
4 broadcast programming;  
5               nonvolatile storage containing one or more  
6 templates defining characteristics of video content desired  
7 to be recorded; and  
8               an image processor comparing a demodulated field  
9 to a template and saving the field in response to  
10 determining at least a threshold level of similarity  
11 between the field and the template.

1           9.   The video receiver as set forth in Claim 8  
2 wherein the template defines color characteristics and  
3 spatial distribution of regions to be compared to the  
4 demodulated field for determining a level of similarity.

1           10. The video receiver as set forth in Claim 9  
2 wherein the template includes white regions of expected  
3 variability which are ignored in comparing the template to  
4 the demodulated field.

1           11. The video receiver as set forth in Claim 8  
2 wherein the image processor continuously compares  
3 demodulated fields for a selected channel to the template.

1           12. The video receiver as set forth in Claim 8  
2 wherein the image processor compares demodulated fields for  
3 a selected channel to the template during a predefined  
4 period.

1           13. The video receiver as set forth in Claim 8  
2 wherein the image processor compares successive demodulated  
3 fields to the template and saves all demodulated fields  
4 having at least the threshold level of similarity with the  
5 template together with associated audio.

1           14. The video receiver as set forth in Claim 8  
2 wherein the image processor compares demodulated fields for  
3 a plurality of channels each to a designated template from  
4 one or more templates.

1           15. A method of video content-based selection of  
2 programming for recording comprising:

3                   obtaining a field from broadcast programming;

4                   comparing the field from the broadcast  
5 programming to a template defining characteristics of video  
6 content desired to be recorded; and

7                   saving the field in response to determining at  
8 least a threshold level of similarity between the field and  
9 the template.

1           16. The method as set forth in Claim 15 wherein the  
2 step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3 to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4 desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                   comparing the field to a template defining color  
6 characteristics and spatial distribution of regions to be  
7 compared to the demodulated field for determining a level  
8 of similarity.

1           17. The method as set forth in Claim 16 wherein the  
2           step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3           to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4           desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                     comparing the field to a template including white  
6           regions of expected variability which are ignored in  
7           comparing the template to the demodulated field.

1           18. The method as set forth in Claim 15 wherein the  
2           step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3           to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4           desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                     continuously comparing fields for a selected  
6           channel to the template.

1           19. The method as set forth in Claim 15 wherein the  
2           step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3           to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4           desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                     comparing fields for a selected channel to the  
6           template during a predefined period.

1           20. The method as set forth in Claim 15 wherein the  
2           step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3           to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4           desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                     comparing successive fields to the template and  
6           saves all fields having at least the threshold level of  
7           similarity with the template together with associated  
8           audio.

1           21. The method as set forth in Claim 15 wherein the  
2           step of comparing the field from the broadcast programming  
3           to a template defining characteristics of video content  
4           desired to be recorded further comprises:

5                     comparing fields for a plurality of channels each  
6           to a designated template from one or more templates.

1           22. A datastream for use with a video receiver  
2 comprising:

3                 a broadcast programming stream including selected  
4 broadcast programming; and

5                 at least one template defining characteristics of  
6 video content desired to be recorded, wherein the at least  
7 one template is suitable for being employed by the video  
8 receiver to select a portion of the broadcast programming  
9 stream for recording based upon similarity of a field  
10 within the selected portion of the broadcast programming  
11 stream to the at least one template.